

CITY OF MILPITAS

Building & Safety Department
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Milpitas, CA 95035
408-586-3240

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WATER PIPING

1. PERMIT INFORMATION:

- ☐ A Building Permit may be issued only to a State of California Licensed Contractor or the Homeowner.
- ☐ Building Permits may be issued to a Homeowner for construction if that Homeowner indicates the intent to do his or her own work personally. If the inspection indicates the Homeowner is unable to perform the work satisfactorily, then a licensed contractor must perform the work.
- ☐ If the Homeowner is planning to hire workers, State Law requires the Homeowner to obtain Worker's Compensation Insurance. Proof of this insurance is required prior to inspection.

2. BUILDING REQUIREMENTS

- ☐ This permit is for the replacement of existing water piping with new (galvanized with copper). This permit does not include replacing or repairing the tub or tub-shower enclosure, lavatories or sinks, adding new water piping as part of a larger remodeling project, or relocating plumbing fixtures, faucets, or valves.
- ☐ Extensive removal of the walls or ceiling structure requires a building permit.
- ☐ All work must comply with the 2007 Building Code Standards (Building, Electrical, Mechanical, Plumbing and Energy) and the 2008 Milpitas Municipal Code.
- ☐ The new interior water piping materials shall be in accordance with Section 604.0. Pipe may be brass, copper, cast iron, galvanized iron, galvanized steel, CPVC, or PEX-AL-PE. CPVC piping must be installed in accordance with Section 604.1.1. PEX and PEX-AL-PEX piping is prohibited.
- ☐ Plumbing faucets and valves may be replaced in the same location as part of the water piping replacement permit work. New or replaced shower or tub-shower control valves must be the pressure balance, thermostatic, or combination mixing valve type that provide scald and thermal shock protection. Handle position stops shall be set to deliver water with a maximum temperature of 120° F.
- ☐ An approved back-flow prevention device must be installed between the domestic water system and the irrigation system (CPC 603.4.6). If an anti-siphon valve is installed, it must be installed 6" above the highest sprinkler head or in accordance with it's listing.
- ☐ All hose-bibbs must have non-removable hose-bibb backflow preventors installed in accordance with CPC 603.4.7.
- ☐ Grounding and bonding of the electrical service is required when the water piping is replaced. Grounding and bonding shall comply with the 2007 California Electric Code. Grounding shall consist of a continuous grounding conductor run from the panel to a ground rod (grounding electrode) and to the cold water pipe. Grounding of the electrical service at the main water line must be within the first 5 feet of water piping into the building. The underground water service shall not be used as the sole grounding system; it must be supplemented with a ground rod.
- ☐ **Smoke alarms:** When the value of the work exceeds \$1,000, smoke detectors must be installed if they do not exist as follows: in each sleeping room, at a point centrally located in the corridor or area giving access to each separate sleeping area, and on each story. In existing construction, detectors may be battery operated. See CBC Section 907.2.10 and the separate handout on Smoke Alarms for more information.

- ☐ **Spark arrester:** When the value of the work exceeds \$1,000, a spark arrester must be installed on fireplace chimneys if one does not exist per MMC Section II-3-2.06. Spark arresters shall be constructed in conformance with CBC Section 2113.9.1 or 2802.1. See separate handout on Spark Arresters for more information.

3. INSPECTION PROCEDURES

- ☐ Two inspections are required, a rough and a final. The rough inspection should be scheduled when the new water line is installed and before it is covered up. A final inspection should be scheduled after all work is complete. For each inspection, the Permit Card and the Approved Job Copy of the Drawings (if any) must be presented to the inspector. Permits expire 180 days after the last passed inspection.

4. QUESTIONS:

- ☐ If you have any questions regarding your project contact the Building & Safety Department at (408) 586-3240.